

taught the people, by making them familiar with it, to reverence and appreciate it. Ten years ago, what was art among us? It is true that really fine pictures found, among the few of wealth and taste, an occasional purchaser, but the young artist who felt that he must creep before he could walk, had no encouragement to begin. He must smother his aspirations or starve. All this it has remedied. Then our men of wealth filled their walls with counterfeit originals, and bad copies, the refuse of European markets.

Amongst the mass art was not understood at all. Pictures were merely things in frames pleasant enough to look at once. The prettiest were always the best, they never studied them, they never saw any relative merit in them, least of all did they desire to spend money for them. There was no taste among them, but the Art-Union has created one, and now almost every man we meet can say something about pictures, and likes to talk about them, and see them. In the increased attention to the subject of painting; in the improved taste and discrimination in judging of the merits of pictures, and in the numerous and beautiful works of art that now adorn the houses of many of our citizens, we see ample proofs of the good the institution has already done, and strong indications of the further benefit it is destined, under proper management, to confer on our country."

The council have so often dwelt on the objects and plan of the Art-Union of London, that it would seem unnecessary again to refer to them, nor can they say more than has been said in former reports, to impress upon those who may gain to-day the right of purchasing works of art, the importance of using the greatest care and judgment in the selection.

The Art-Union of London has not worked in vain: a love and knowledge of art are spreading, the real purpose and value of art are beginning to be understood, and the artist is more properly appreciated. Much, however, is yet needed to be done to place the arts in their position amongst us, and the council feel that they cannot dwell too often or too forcibly on their importance.

Is there one of us who has not had his views cleared, his thoughts elevated, his heart lightened by the presentiments of genius—by genius whose power it is to discover everlasting beauty beneath deepest disguises, and make it clear to the minds of commoner men? Great are the victories of the true artist—greater and more enduring than those of the warrior, and equally worthy of reward.

Art teaches us to see nature, and opens fresh views to the mind, providing

"An endless fountain of immortal drink," and high inducements for exertion. But for art, the most perfect form of man, and some of his highest powers, would be unknown, for art, from specialities and incompleteness, has produced the general and the perfect. This is the true province of art, to set forth thought. "Always and universally," says Schlegel, it is thought, the idea of some subject or form as the inner sense or significance thereof, that constitutes the essence of a work of art, and with which art in general is concerned."

We would urge this as well on our younger and rising artists as on those who are to judge and aid their efforts, and, suggesting to them that little minds cannot produce great things, nor vulgar minds pure things, would bid them pursue their art not as a plaything or a trade, but thoughtfully, earnestly, and with high motive, for the enjoyment, instruction, and elevation of mankind.

Let it be the province of the Art-Union of London to provide a public capable of appreciating such efforts, and willing fittingly to reward them.

On the motion of Mr. John Rannie, seconded by Mr. T. C. Harrison, the report was received unanimously, and the Chairman then addressed some observations to the meeting, in the course of which he said,—"As for the matter of the lottery, people have found out that it is a very different thing to reduce people to throw away their money on foolish schemes, and to take their money and so place it out as to produce an effect advantageous to the fine arts in this country. Many men of genius are not men of opulence; many who have great talent in art have no opportu-

nities of making that talent available,—or had none rather till the Art-Union was instituted; and, certainly, if the public could have seen what the council had seen in some instances, and what they have oftener had great reason to suspect,—if they had seen the struggles with which artists have to contend; against the effect of poverty in many instances, and those other circumstances of adversity which press upon them, they would know that this ranks not only among those societies which are intended for the entertainment of mankind, but amongst those whose object is of a solid and useful character. And I would impress upon those ladies and gentlemen especially, who have come to the metropolis at this time of the year, for the sake of seeing those specimens of art which are now generally exhibited, to consider when they go back to their homes, and to deliberate upon the fact, that the artists whose works they have seen are not all of them in the same opulence as the spectators of them; and may you reflect also, that a very small sum given to the Art-Union would be the most effectual means of aiding them; for these effects can only be produced by union and strength among people who have the same object before them. No one can have seen the effects which have been produced by the genius of the artist without having the mind carried along with them into a region which certainly is favourable both to virtue and to happiness; and if those ladies and gentlemen who have witnessed these effects will reflect when they return to their homes, that a very small sum at that time would be the means of encouraging art, raising probably the struggling mind when it is almost yielding to the effects of adversity, they will see one of the advantages in giving their mite to the Art-Union.

The Rev. Mr. Blithwaite objected to the character of the engravings which had been issued, and, admitting that in this respect the council were greatly in the hands of the engravers, thought some means should be adopted to ensure a better result.

The Chairman and the Honorary Secretary having reiterated what was contemplated in this respect, and explained the position of the council,

Mr. F. Y. Hurlstone moved, and Mr. J. H. Mann seconded a vote of thanks to the council, which was carried unanimously; as was also a vote of thanks to Mr. Lewis Pocock and Mr. Godwin, on the motion of Professor Donaldson, seconded by Mr. G. R. Ward.

Miss Loudon (her father's name was not forgotten by the meeting) and Miss Susan Bagueley undertook to draw the prizes, and Mr. J. H. Mann and Mr. Seddon to act as scrutineers, and the drawing of the prizes commenced. The following is a correct

LIST OF THE PRIZEHOLDERS ENTITLED TO SELECT FOR THEMSELVES.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Two Hundred Pounds.

Appleyard, G., 27, St. James's-place.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds.

Lane, Rev. C., Wrotham.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of One Hundred Pounds.

Biggs, W., Cooduit-street.

Martin, J. U., East Dereham.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Eighty Pounds.

Jenner, Mrs., Bridgend, Glamorgan.

Jennings, Miss, Calbeck, Wigton.

Lamb, Miss Jessie, Liverpool.

Stones, J., Bolton.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Seventy Pounds.

Fletcher, S., Manchester.

Hanbury, P., Lombard-street.

Hardman, H. H., Manchester.

Newman, Rev. Dr., Magdalen College, Oxford.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Sixty Pounds.

Dodd, G., M.P., Grosvenor-place.

Doyle, M., jun., Old-square, Lincoln's-inn.

Lambton, William, Brompton.

Minton, H., Stoke-on-Trent.

Strange, J. C., Strathcly.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Fifty Pounds.

Allan, T., Alnwick.

De la Costa, J. B., Bolivar.

Hall, Mrs. Colonel, Chertsey.

Mould, J. T., Brompton.

Smith, W., Wimbeach.

Sthamer, Dr., Whitefriars.

Thorne, C., Upper Holloway.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Forty Pounds.

Bailey, H., Gracechurch-street.

Boardman, C., Blackburn.

Briggs, J. H., Gloucester-road.

Carpenter, Lieut.-Col., Potter's-bar, Epsom.

Christian, W., Baldoek.

Dymock, Dr., Louth.

Hesseltine, R., Hamilton-house, Thirsk.

Hill, Mrs. R., Hampstead.

Hoover, J., Hackney.

Richards, E. P., Cardiff.

Taylor, J., Windsor Castle.

Wheeler, Mr., New-hall Inn, Birmingham.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Twenty-five Pounds.

Bentley, J., Shoe-lane.

Huckland, Rev. J., Lisleham, Chertsey.

Field, Henry, Cambridge-heath.

Fox, G. J., Atherstone.

Gerdes, J., Liverpool.

Guthrie, Dr., Brechin.

Harrison, T. R., St. Martin's-lane.

Heginbottom, G., Manchester.

Hickson, S., Welbeck-street.

Northampton, the Marquis of.

Payne, E., St. James's-place.

Richards, C., Piccadilly.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Twenty Pounds.

Ackworth, Mrs., Chelmsford.

Bacon, Thos., Woburn-square.

Balston, W., Jun., Maidstone.

Chapman, J., Edmonton.

Corwall, Miss, Holland-place, Camden New-road.

Faulkner, W. C., North Hingley.

Power, R., Atherstone.

Proctor, Thos. Cathay, Bristol.

Reynolds, E. H., Sunderland-works.

Salt, J., Lombard-street.

Spencer, Mrs., Stockwell.

Triscout, H. T., 33, New Bridge-street, Woodfriars.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Fifteen Pounds.

Armstrong, H. H., St. George-street, Epsom.

Wellclose-square.

Bennett, J., Pall-Mall.

Boddington, R., Ditching.

Brooks, J. H., Farringdon-street.

Erskine, Lady, Conway.

Gandy, G., Kendal.

Hancock, J. L., Goswell Mews.

Haes, J., Throgmorton-street.

Light, J. D., Prerogative Court.

Miller, R., Glasgow.

Mills, C. H., Oxford-street.

Shaw, R. A., Selby.

Sherriff, H., Aylesbury.

Stacey, R. H., Carnarthen.

Taylor, J. L., Saffron Walden.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Ten Pounds.

A. Z., Halifax.

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Arklay, P., Boston, U.S.

Barry, R., Cork.

Brassey, Mrs., Lowndes-square.

Collman, L. W., Corzon-street.

Copley, G., Pontefract.

Crook, S., Melbourne, Port Philip.

Davenport, C., Mark-lane.

Gale, W. F., Kew.

Grey, Hon. W. B., Charles-street, Berkeley-sq.

Hawkins, C., Petworth.

Lyon, Mrs., Hull.

Nikens, Mrs., Coblenz.

Twentyman, A., Croydon.

Wiggins, W., Horley.

The following were entitled each to a bronze from Sir P. Chantrey's Bust of "The Queen": Messrs. Brooks, G. B. Hyden, A. Chisholm, Miss Churchill, Mr. John Cragg, Dr. Dickson, Messrs. T. T. Drinkald, R. C. Dunn, W. Greenwood, C. Lawrens, J. Lumsden, J. G. Lynd, E. J. Mawley, W. T. Mitford, H. Pilkington, Major-General Taylor, Messrs. J. Thompson, R. Thompson, J. H. Walker, and Moses Ward.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASYLUM.—THE PROPOSED "LADIES' WING."—Prince Albert is to lay the first stone of the increased number of habitations which have been determined to be added to this institution, on Tuesday, 29th May next.